

Clearwater NF Terrestrial Wildlife Related MA Goals and Standards

III. Management Area Direction (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-1)

"The Forestwide management direction included in Chapter II of this Plan applies to all management areas."

"Management area goals are items or practices that we want to achieve but, because of budgets or constraints, may not be achievable. Standards are items that must be achieved to meet Forest Plan direction."

MA A2 - Elk Creek Falls Rec Area (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-3)

"Provide optimum opportunities for viewing the three scenic waterfalls in the area and maintain a natural appearing setting essentially free of evidence of man's activities."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-3)

Goal: "Manage old-growth-dependent and nongame wildlife species."

MA A3 - Dispersed Rec in Unroaded Setting (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-7)

"Manage to maintain a semi primitive setting with a variety of opportunities for dispersed recreation in an essentially unroaded setting. Minimize management control of recreational activities."

"Manage other resources within constraints necessary to retain a semi primitive setting and to maintain and enhance recreational opportunities."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-8)

Goal: "Manage optimum wildlife (primarily elk) habitat within limits necessary to meet visual management standards and to maintain a semi primitive setting."

MA A4 - Visual Travel Corridor (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-10)

"Manage to maintain and enhance an aesthetically pleasing natural appearing Forest setting surrounding the roads, trails, and areas of concentrated public use. Maintain and enhance opportunities for dispersed recreation in connection with management of suitable timber lands within and surrounding the corridors for production of timber. Permit wildlife habitat improvement and livestock grazing within constraints necessary to maintain recreational opportunities."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-12)

Goal: "Manage big-game summer and winter habitat when VQO's can be met."

4. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-12)

Goal: "b. Design harvest schedules to maintain or increase vegetative diversity, including old-growth habitat."

8. Facilities (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-13)

Goal: "a. Permit ORV use except III areas that would result in: (1) soil damage, (2) wildlife harassment, (3) conflict with administrative use."

MA A5 - Developed Recreation (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-15)

"Manage developed recreational sites to meet public demands for facilities for camping and picnicking. Provide information services at all administrative sites and at sites with facilities as needed to inform users of regulations governing use and to achieve knowledge of all services provided. Provide interpretive and educational services that promote public understanding of proper use of developed facilities and enjoyment of Forest resources including cultural and historical values."

"Within administrative sites provide and maintain facilities necessary for the administration of the Clearwater National Forest."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-16)

Goal: "Management for wildlife and fish within this area will be incidental to other management."

MA A6 - Historic/Visual Travel Corridor (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-19)

"Manage to provide opportunity for recreational activities oriented to traveling over, understanding and appreciating the route as a historic travel route."

"Ensure that prehistoric, historic, and archeological sites and values are studied, preserved, or protected in accordance with cultural resource regulations. Provide for interpretation and enjoyment of these sites, along with provision for dispersed recreation and protection of visual quality."

"Coordinate with the National Park Service, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Idaho Lewis and Clark Trail Committee to ensure protection and enhancement of the cultural values and recreational resource values of the trail system."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-20)

Goal: "Manage big-game summer habitat within adopted VQO's."

MA A7 - Wild and Scenic River (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-24)

"Protect and enhance scenic values, cultural values, water quality, big game, nongame, and fishery habitats with special emphasis on the anadromous fishery, and developed and dispersed recreation that will contribute to public use and enjoyment of the free flowing rivers and their immediate environment. Manage that portion of the Lochsa Research Natural Area within the corridor to protect the specific research values. (See Management Area MI.)"

"Secure and administer scenic easements with private landowners in the corridor to protect the integrity of the corridor and to meet the intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act."

"Cooperate with the IDT, Division of Highways, to improve highway safety on Highway 12 while protecting the inherent values of the corridor."

"Manage those portions of the corridor that overlap the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness and the Lochsa RNA under the more restrictive direction of those two management areas. (See, Management Areas BI and MI.)"

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-26)

Goals: "b. Maintain and improve elk winter range productivity consistent with visual resource and water quality objectives."

9. Protection (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-30)

Goal: "a. Limit size of individual wildfires:

- 1) To 40 acres or less when occurring within winter range browse fields.
- (2) To one-tenth acre or less on timbered land.

b. Use prescribed fires from planned and unplanned ignitions as needed to achieve Forest Plan direction "

MA B1 - Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-31)

"Manage the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964. Protect and maintain the inherent wilderness resource while providing quality wilderness recreation. Applicable management direction from the Selway-Bitterroot Management Plan of 1982 prepared in conjunction with the Lolo, Nez Perce and Bitterroot National Forests, is Included in Appendix L. Changes in management will be prepared under the auspices of the four Forest Plans."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-33)

Goal: "b. Cooperate with Idaho Fish and Game and allow for stocking or reintroduction of fish or wildlife species where those species were or are indigenous to the area and were removed or destroyed by human induced events."

MA B2 - Recommended Wilderness (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-36)

"1. Areas not recommended by the Clear-water National Forest for wilderness but designated by Congress as wilderness will be managed under the following direction until a Wilderness Management Guide is prepared,

2. Manage each recommended wilderness to protect its wilderness character."

3. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-37)

Goal: "Cooperate with Idaho Fish and Game and allow for stocking or reintroduction of fish or wildlife species where those species were or are indigenous to the area and were extirpated by human induced events."

MA C1 - Key Big Game Summer Range (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-40)

"Manage to maximize big-game summer habitat potential. Manage without roads to provide minimum disturbance to big-game animals. Provide for short-term livestock grazing where compatible with elk habitat management.

Provide for high quality dispersed recreation in a semi primitive motorized setting."

1. Recreation (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-40)

Standard: "Manage for dispersed recreation in a semi primitive motorized setting oriented to big-game hunting activities."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-40)

Goal: "a. Rehabilitate big-game habitat for thermal cover, security, and forage as needed to provide optimum habitat conditions."

3. Range (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-41)

Standard: "Phase out grazing allotments where existing or potential conflicts occur with elk use."

4. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-41)

Standard: "Exclude scheduled timber harvest. Harvest may occur to accomplish wildlife or recreational objectives, or to control Insect and disease epidemics that threaten adjacent suitable timberlands."

8. Facilities (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-41)

Standard: "Do not construct new Forest system roads. Temporary roads may only be constructed in times of natural emergencies (catastrophic fire) and when legally required to provide access."

Standard: "Permit trail bike use on trails to extent that use does not damage trails, result in unsafe conditions for other users, or prevent achievement of fish and wildlife management goals. "

MA C3 - Key Big Game Winter Range/Unsuit. (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-43)

"Provide winter forage and thermal cover for big game."

1. Recreation (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-43)

Standard: "b. Manage for dispersed recreation in a roaded natural setting on areas that occur within or adjacent to management areas designated for development. Limit motorized vehicle use during winter periods when big-game animals are vulnerable to harassment."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-43)

Goal: "a. Maintain a minimum of 25 percent of the area in stands of trees of adequate size for thermal cover distributed through and adjacent to forage areas. Cover areas should be 25 acres or larger."

Goal: "b. Improve browse habitat when shrub height exceeds 7 feet, when high brush decadency is present, or when forage production is declining, considering site capabilities and cost-effectiveness."

Goal: "c. Remove trees and replace with browse species where needed to meet forage objectives."

3. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-44)

Goal: "Plant trees where needed to provide thermal cover for animals."

Standard: "Classify timber-producing land as unsuitable. Harvest trees where needed to provide cover/forage for elk winter use."

4. Range (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-44)

Standard: "Do not provide new domestic livestock grazing where conflicts occur with winter range objectives."

7. Lands (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-44)

Standard: "b. Designate area as suitable for potential utility corridor if soil, watershed, and wildlife constraints can be met or mitigated and when consistent with adjacent management area direction."

8. Facilities (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-45)

Standard: "a. Close roads to all motor vehicles when conflicts with big-game winter use could occur."

Standard: "b. Do not construct roads for management of the area. Roads needed for mineral development or to access adjacent areas are permitted, except as noted in c. below. Minimize restrictions in animal crossing during winter use."

Standard: "c. Construct no new Forest System roads in C3 areas associated with Management Areas C1, A3, and C6."

9. Protection (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-45)

Goal: "a. Treat activity fuel to break up continuous fuel beds, to remove barriers of big-game movement, and to improve forage."

MA C4 - Key Big Game Winter Range/Suit. (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-47)

"Manage big-game winter range to provide sufficient forage and cover for existing and projected big-game populations and achieve timber production outputs."

1. Recreation (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-47)

Standard: "b. Manage motorized vehicle use during the winter when big game are vulnerable to harassment, and at any time when conflicts may occur with timber management."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-47)

Goal: "Maintain a minimum of 25 percent of the area in stands of trees of adequate size for thermal cover distributed through and adjacent to forage areas. Cover areas should be 25 acres or larger."

3. Range (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-47)

Standard: "Do not permit new domestic livestock grazing where conflicts occur with winter range objectives."

4. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-48)

Standard: "a. Manage for even-age timber stands, with emphasis on clearcut harvest methods to allow for early establishment of temporary elk winter forage."

Standard: "b. Design clearcuts to favor natural regeneration, especially those where road access is limited or excluded because of soil and watershed and constraints."

7. Lands (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-48)

Standard: "b. Designate area as suitable for potential utility corridor if soil, watershed, and wildlife constraints can be met or mitigated."

8. Facilities (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-48)

Standard: "a. Close roads and trails to motor vehicles and ORV use when potential conflicts with big-game winter use could occur"

Standard: "b. Design roads needed for Forest development or mineral development to meet soil and watershed constraints and to minimize restrictions for animal crossings during the winter."

9. Protection (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-49)

Goal: "a. Treat logging residue to prepare sites for reforestation, to break up continuous fuel beds, to remove barriers to big-game movement, and to improve forage."

MA C6 - Key Fishery Habitat (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-49)

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-50)

Goal: "Rehabilitate big-game habitat for cover and forage as needed to provide optimum habitat conditions."

4. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-51)

Goal: Reforest or revegetate nonstocked acres to achieve ~011, water, and wildlife objectives."

Standard: "Classify land as unsuitable for timber production. Harvest trees only to support fish or wildlife habitat objectives."

8. Facilities (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-51)

Standard: "a. Do not construct new Forest system roads. Temporary roads may only be constructed in times of natural emergencies (catastrophic fire) and when legally required to provide access."

Standard: "b. Permit trail bike use on trails to extent use does not damage trails, result in unsafe conditions for other users, or prevent achievement of fish and wildlife management goals."

MA C8S - Big Game Summ. Rng./Timber Mgmt. (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-53)

"Manage these areas to maintain high quality wildlife and fishery objectives while producing timber from the productive Forest land. These objectives can be met by modifying standard timber practices and scheduling and prohibiting most public motorized uses. Wildlife objectives are primarily oriented at elk habitat management but are not to exclude moose habitat on the Powell District."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-53)

Goal: "b. Maintain or enhance moose habitat as indicated by project or area analysis."

Standard: "b. Manage big-game summer range for a minimum of 75 percent of elk habitat potential."

Standard: "c. Avoid or provide mitigation for special wildlife areas such as big-game calving areas, wallows, travel routes, and licks when designing roads and timber sales."

3. Range (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-54)

Goal: "Manage domestic livestock grazing to prevent deterioration of elk habitat, stream bank erosion, and degraded fish habitat."

4. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-54)

Goal: "a. Plan and distribute openings to achieve maximum elk use."

Goal: "Provide a sufficient leave area between harvest units that would reduce snow levels to allow for moose travel corridors within moose habitat."

Standard: "a. Design harvest activities within each elk analysis area that do not require re-entry within ten years."

Standard: "b. Provide security habitat areas adjacent to harvest areas when planning timber sale activities."

Standard: "c. Schedule summer timber harvest activities (road construction, cutting, and yarding) to ensure that those activities occur on only one sale area within an elk analysis area at any given time. Hauling may be permitted through adjacent elk analysis areas. Timber harvest activities during winter months will not be restricted if it is determined that those areas are not occupied by big-game animals during the planned activities."

Standard: "d. Timber sale contracts will include specific provisions that limit operators from camping, carrying firearms, and transporting game in vehicles on roads closed to public."

8. Facilities (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-55)

Standard: "a. Plan and implement transportation systems to avoid:

(2) Special big-game habitat components such as calving areas, licks, wallows, and concentration areas or to provide for mitigation if required to cross."

9. Protection (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-56)

Goal: "b. Treat logging and thinning slash to prepare sites for reforestation, to break up continuous fuel beds, to remove barriers to big-game movement, and to improve forage.

MA E1 - Timber Management (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-57)

"Provide optimum, sustained production of wood products. Timber production is to be cost effective and provide adequate protection of soil and water quality. Manage viable elk populations within areas of historic elk use based on physiological and ecological needs. Manage a range of water quality and fish habitat potential from high fishable in several of the key anadromous and resident fish streams to a low fishable in the Palouse District and portions of the Pierce District. (See Forestwide Standards and Appendix K)."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-57)

Standards: "a. Provide forage and hiding cover (edge effect) for white-tailed deer in Idaho Fish and Game big game management units 8 and 8A in the Palouse District except the following areas ~111 be managed for elk: Wepah Creek, Baby Grand Mountain, Abes Knob-Vassar Meadows area, Ruby Creek, and Shattuck Butte.

b. Manage for a minimum of 25 percent maximum elk potential habitat effectiveness. During Plan implementation and further analysis, determine whether remaining areas of EI have potential for providing elk habitat. When analysis shows elk potential is limited by factors other than National Forest management, determinations may be made not to manage for elk. When habitat conditions warrant, managers are urged to exceed the 25 percent habitat standard. See Forestwide General Standards in Chapter II "

4. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-58)

Standards: "c. Identify and maintain suitable old-growth stands and replacement habitats for snag and old-growth dependent wildlife species in accordance with criteria in Appendix H."

8. Facilities (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-59)

Goal: "b. Regulate use of roads and trails (to motorized vehicles) where needed to accomplish wildlife, watershed objectives, or property values. Manage seasonal and year-long road closures to provide security for elk to meet area objectives.

MA E3 - Aerial Harvest Systems/Timber Mgmt. (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-61)

"Manage timber while providing maximum protection of soil and watershed values. Manage the big-game summer range for a minimum of 25 percent potential elk habitat."

No established wildlife related Goals or Standards other than identified above.

MA M1 - RNAs (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-63)

"Manage established and proposed RNA's to protect their inherent natural features and maintain them in undisturbed ecosystems. Manage special Interest areas to protect their special features."

2. Wildlife and Fish (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-65)

Standard: "Exclude fish and wildlife improvements."

MA M2 - RHCAs (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-68)

"Manage under the principles of multiple use as areas of special consideration, distinctive values, and integrated with adjacent management areas to the extent that water and other riparian dependent resources are protected.

Evaluate onsite and cumulative effects of proposed action, resolving significant. conflicts In favor of riparian dependent resources."

4. Timber (Forest Plan Part A, Chapter III, pg. III-70)

Standards: "a. Manage vegetation to:

(1) Provide a diversity of vegetation for dependent wildlife species.

(2) Maintain an overmature component for dependent wildlife species and for large woody debris recruitment as necessary for stream stability and fish habitat."

